

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906

April 16, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Brown, Gloria Criscuolo, Grace Dennis, Margaret Ann Gatch, Helene Gruber, David Green, Nancy Pinkerton, Gardenia Simmons-White, Ann Wirz and Morris Campbell (Ex-Officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bobby Collar

STAFF PRESENT: Mitzi Wagner, Bill Love, Beth Cody and Joe Anne King

GUESTS PRESENT: None present

I. CALL TO ORDER – Helene Gruber, Chair

Ms. Gruber called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS

There were no guests present.

III. MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2013 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY GLORIA CRISCUOLO AND SECONDED BY NANCY PINKERTON TO APPROVE THE MARCH 19, 2013 BOARD MINUTES AS PRESENTED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 16, 2013 AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE DENNIS AND SECONDED BY ANN WIRZ TO ADOPT THE APRIL 19, 2013 AGENDA AS SUBMITTED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, Helene Gruber, Chair

Ms. Gruber reminded board members that it was time to appoint a nominating committee to recommend officers for the coming year and asked for volunteers. Ann Wirz, Gloria Criscuolo and Grace Dennis volunteered. Ms. Criscuolo will chair the committee and bring their recommendations to the board for vote.

Ms. Gruber mentioned that Ms. Criscuolo composed a letter to members of the county Council thanking them for listening to and supporting us. The letter comes from all board members and each board members name is on the letter. Ms. Gruber passed the letter around for each member to sign.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mitzi Wagner

Ms. Wagner asked Ms. Cody to update board members on the status of the DSN budget. Ms. Cody passed out budget information, reviewed each topic and answered questions. She said we are three-quarters through this budget year and are in good shape. Ms. Wagner mentioned that we done an analysis of our budgeted revenue versus what we will actually receive and found that we will have \$150,000 more in revenue than we originally budgeted for. She said more waivers were approved in the past four months than expected and we are serving more individuals in the day program. Ms.

Cody said we are buying food in bulk from Sysco that will prevent staff from spending hours shopping for all the homes and using that time to be more productive with our individuals. She said our menus are planned out for the week by a Sysco dietician and each house determines what menu they will provide that day. Ms. Wagner mentioned that if Sysco could not provide the service, we would get someone else to look at it.

Ms. Wagner said Mr. Love has done a fantastic job with our cleaning contracts. The individuals have done such a wonderful job with PALS that they asked us to submit a proposal to clean Buckwalter and Burton Wells facilities. We also found there may be an opportunity to clean the library and submitted a proposal for that. She said it is very exciting to see the recognition for DSN and the consumers and it elevates awareness in the community. Our individuals love working in the community and feel that they are part of it. With these contracts, we should have more than 50% of our consumers from the day program employed and Mr. Love is responsible for making that happen. Mr. Love said DSN has counterpart meetings that meet periodically to talk about what is happening. He said at the last meeting they were amazed at our relationship with the county and felt this population is part of the county and the county should assume responsibility for putting a face and a voice for them. He said we are the only county in the state doing this. He said that speaks for the support of Mr. Kubic and Mr. Campbell and if we did not have that kind of support this would not happen. This population is one of us and it is important to see consumers working in the community and making a difference.

Ms. Wagner said our "Volunteer Appreciation Day" would be held on April 26 spearheaded by Ms. Randel. She said invitations were mailed and hopes that all board members will attend. What they have planned is terrific. Mr. Kubic, Beaufort County Administration will open the ceremony and Mr. Love will present the gifts. Refreshments will be served, and everyone who attends will receive a gift. She said over 100 individuals have volunteered in some capacity at DSN in the last year.

Ms. Wagner said we are still working on the Flag Pole Project and if you know of someone who would like to buy a brick please thank them and give them a form. She said we have sold about 35 and need a minimum of 62 and really could use some help in selling them.

Ms. Wagner mentioned that she talked with two ladies today who want to be involved but did not know what they wanted to do. She said they were both delightful people; one of them made the decision to go with ABLE and the other will complete the application for the vacant position on the Advisory Board. ABLE now has ten members; all are enthusiastic and ready to go. Everybody is motivated and ideas going everywhere. ABLE's new treasurer is "Gung-ho" and Beth and I will try to clear up some things that are very confusing about the county and by this time next year ABLE will be doing amazing things.

Ms. Wagner said with the additional money we found in the budget there are some things we plan to do. She mentioned that we plan to get a storage shed and a large screen television that can be connected with the computers to help with the sound when we have training. Mr. Love will speak on our decision to put in a well.

VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Mr. Love said that for the past six months we have been monitoring our water bill. Our water bill averages about \$1000.00 monthly and should be around \$350 to \$400 a month. Between the

irrigation and the fountain, we needed to do something different, so we put in a proposal for a well. Mr. Pinckney was selected to work with us to create a well with irrigation and water to the fountain. He said within a year, the well will pay for itself.

Mr. Love said Ms. Carol Lindsay, who was one of our service coordinators, was selected as our Breakers Coordinator. She has become very involved and engaged and done several things already that have given us the confidence that she will keep things going the way they have been going and we are pleased to have her with us.

Mr. Love said the security system is coming along well. They are finished with the wiring on this side of the building and are now working in the day program. We will have a total of 57 cameras, 19 will be on the outside for security, and the majority will be in the training rooms, the large room and in the dining area in the day program. A few will be located on this side of the building. There will be audio as well as visual, in the day program, which is positive. The crew is extremely accommodating, and is working until 9:00 and 10:00 at night to avoid any conflicts. They are scheduled to come after 3:00 p.m. when our individuals are gone.

Mr. Love said we mentioned a few weeks ago that we found mildew and water damage in the changing room. He said it has all been cleaned out and repaired. The repairs will be covered by the contractors insurance.

Mr. Love said our bluebirds are back and we have three eggs in the nest. The consumers are excited and are watching. Mr. Love thanked Ms. Gruber for enabling us to have the birdhouse, camera and television for watching the process. He said we are learning about bluebirds, watching them building the nest, laying their eggs and watching them hatch.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee, Helene Gruber, Chair
The committee has not contacted us but look forward to hearing from them.
- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair
Mr. Brown said he would call to inquire about the application mentioned by Ms. Wagner.
- Policy/Directive Committee, Grace Dennis, Chair
No policies to review this month
- Public Relations Committee, David Green, Chair
Nothing to report.
- Goals Committee Reports
 1. Communication among boards
Ms. Wirz mentioned that in the past, we have had difficulty getting members of each board together and it was not very productive. It was suggested that one or two members could sign up to attend an ABLE Foundation meeting and bring the information back to board members. Much of the Human Rights meeting consists of confidential information and possibly someone from Human Rights could attend our meetings. She also said she knows that we were very intimidating but would like to be able to work with them and also ask for their support.

MOTION WAS MADE BY GARDENIA SIMMONS WHITE TO INVITE MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE TO ATTEND OUR MEETING AS A GUEST AND TAKE THE INFORMATION BACK TO THEIR GROUP. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION WAS MADE THAT ANN WIRZ AND GRACE DENNIS ATTEND AN UPCOMING ABLE FOUNDATION MEETING OFFERING THE SUPPORT OF THE ADVISORY BOARD IN THEIR FUND RAISING PROJECTS. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Grant money and fundraising
Nothing to report
3. Communication with County and State
Ms. Criscuolo said she had plans to attend the SC Commission meeting in June.
4. Educate Families for Eligibility.
Ms. Wagner said we owe Mr. Collar a debt of gratitude. He got us a place on the agenda for both the middle and elementary schools on this side of the Broad and we have dates later this month for the two schools on the other side of the Broad. The meeting we had was very successful. Mr. Love, Ms. Womack and Ms. Wagner attended. She said some of the teachers did not understand how important it was and were really “gung-ho” to make things happen. Ms. Wagner said it would make a big difference in getting people eligible for DSN services early on.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Criscuolo said the Bluffton Sun has an article “Volunteer offers with Long Term Benefits” and would like to get the Public Relations person for the county involved. She suggests an interview with Mr. Love on the need for volunteers. Ms. Wagner said this is why we are having the Volunteer Celebration. and one of the things we want to do is use the video as a way to make people aware of the need. Some of the commentary in the video is to make people aware of the need for volunteers in this particular area.

Mr. Green said we might want to include our individuals on the work contracts in the video. He also said the Osprey Village Organization is conducting a survey of potential residents to see what type of housing they want to see. The survey can be taken on the website. Ms. Wagner asked him to send us the Website information and we will pass it along.

Mr. Campbell thanked members for serving on the board. He mentioned that the application for the potential member needed to be in by Monday in order for committee to review it. He also suggested that the chairman of each board, Advisory, ABLE and Human Rights, plan to meet on a quarterly basis and bring that information back to the group.

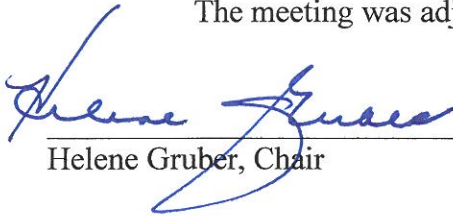
The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, **May 21, 2013** at 4:00 p.m. at:
Disabilities and Special Needs Department
100 Clear Water Way
Beaufort, SC 29906

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY GLORIA CRISCUOLO TO
ADJOURN THE APRIL 16, 2013 MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.


The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.



Helene Gruber, Chair

6/18/13

Date



Nancy Pinkerton, Secretary

6-18-2013

Date